<u>Amendments to the Claims:</u>

The listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

<u>Listing of Claims:</u>

1   1.   (Currently Amended) A ~~message routing~~ method for routing application-level messages
2   in a message routing network, comprising:
3   (a) invoking a first service during a logical routing of a ~~an~~ application-level message in a
4   ~~said~~ message routing network, said first service invocation having a first context; and
5   (b) invoking a second service during said logical routing of said message in said message
6   routing network, said second service invocation having a second context that is defined at least in
7   part by said first service.

1   2.   (Original) The message routing method of claim 1, wherein a context to an invocation
2   includes an identity of an invoker service.

1   3.   (Original) The message routing method of claim 1, wherein a context to an invocation
2   includes arguments to an invoked service.

1   4.   (Original) The message routing method of claim 1, wherein a context to an invocation
2   includes a session identifier for said message.

1   5.   (Original) The message routing method of claim 1, wherein a context to an invocation
2   includes a topic for said message.

1   6.   (Original) The message routing method of claim 1, wherein a context to an invocation
2   includes billing responsibility for said invocation.

1   7.   (Original) The message routing method of claim 1, wherein said message routing
2   network controls at least part of an invocation.

1 8. (Original) The message routing method of claim 1, wherein a context of an invocation is
2 included at least in part in a header element of a message.

1 9. (Original) The message routing method of claim 1, wherein a context of an invocation is
2 included at least in part in a body element of a message.

1 10. (Original) The message routing method of claim 1, wherein a context of an invocation is
2 included at least in part in an attachment of a message.

1 11. (Original) The message routing method of claim 1, further comprising restoring said
2 context, upon return from said second service invocation, to said first context.

1 12. (Original) The message routing method of claim 1, further comprising adding a returned
2 context from said second service invocation to said restored context.

1 13. (Currently Amended) A computer program product, stored on a machine-readable
2 medium, comprising instructions operable to cause a computer to:
3 computer-readable program code for causing a computer to invoke a first service during a
4 logical routing of a an application-level message in a message routing network, said first service
5 invocation having a first context; and
6 computer-readable program code for causing a computer to invoke a second service
7 during said logical routing of said message in said message routing network, said second service
8 invocation having a second context that is defined at least in part by said first service; and
9 a computer-usable medium configured to store the computer-readable program codes.

1 14. (Currently Amended) A message routing system, comprising:
2 a message routing network that enables message routing of application-level messages
3 between a plurality of services, wherein said routing is based on a logical routing of said
4 message that is effected through a sequence of invocations among said plurality of services,
5 wherein a context of an invocation is defined at least in part by an invoking service, wherein
6 upon return from a service invocation, said message routing network restores a message context
7 to a context state of an invoking service of said service invocation.

1   15.   (Original) The message routing system of claim 14, wherein a context of an invocation is

2   defined at least in part by a header of a message.

1   16.   (Original) The message routing system of claim 14, wherein a context to an invocation

2   includes an identity of an invoker service.

1   17.   (Original) The message routing system of claim 14, wherein a context to an invocation

2   includes arguments to an invoked service.

1   18.   (Original) The message routing system of claim 14, wherein a context to an invocation

2   includes a session identifier for said message.

1   19.   (Original) The message routing system of claim 14, wherein a context to an invocation

2   includes a topic for said message.

1   20.   (Original) The message routing system of claim 14, wherein a context to an invocation

2   includes billing responsibility for said invocation.

1   21.   (Original) The message routing system of claim 14, wherein said message routing

2   network controls at least part of an invocation.

1   22.   (Original) The message routing system of claim 14, wherein said logical routing occurs

2   prior to a physical routing of a message.

1   23.   (Original) The message routing system of claim 14, wherein at least part of said logical

2   routing occurs after initiation of a physical routing of a message.

1   24.   (Original) The message routing system of claim 14, wherein physical routing of a

2   message occurs at identified points during said logical routing.

1   25.   (Original) The message routing system of claim 14, wherein a context of an invocation is

2   included at least in part in a header element of a message.

1 26.   (Original) The message routing system of claim 14, wherein a context of an invocation is
2 included at least in part in a body element of a message.

1 27.   (Original) The message routing system of claim 14, wherein a context of an invocation is
2 included at least in part in an attachment of a message.

1 28.   (Currently Amended) A message routing method, comprising:
2   (a) invoking a first service that receives only logical delivery of an application-level
3 message, said application-level message being received over a public network, wherein said first
4 service invocation has a first context defined at least in part by a first invoking service;
5   (b) invoking a second service, said second service invocation having a second context
6 that is defined at least in part by said first service, wherein said second service invocation is
7 managed by a message routing network on behalf of said first service; and
8   (c) delivering said message having said second context to said second service over said
9 public network.

1 29.   (Original) The message routing method of claim 28, wherein a context of an invocation is
2 defined at least in part by a header of a message.

1 30.   (Original) The message routing method of claim 28, wherein a context to an invocation
2 includes an identity of an invoker service.

1 31.   (Original) The message routing method of claim 28, wherein a context to an invocation
2 includes arguments to an invoked service.

1 32.   (Original) The message routing method of claim 28, wherein a context to an invocation
2 includes a session identifier for said message.

1 33.   (Original) The message routing method of claim 28, wherein a context to an invocation
2 includes a topic for said message.

1 34.   (Original) The message routing method of claim 28, wherein a context to an invocation
2 includes billing responsibility for said invocation.